



The Honorable Don Siegelman Governor State of Alabama

#### STATE OF ALABAMA



# DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL RETARDATION

#### **RSA UNION BUILDING**

100 N. UNION STREET POST OFFICE BOX 301410 MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130-1410



COMMISSIONER

The Honorable Don Siegelman Governor State of Alabama State Capitol Montgomery, Alabama 36130

Dear Governor Siegelman:

In many ways, last year was a maintenance year for the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. Please note, however, that the department takes pride in its maintenance efforts, especially considering the many long-time, staff members who retired and the funding situation. Nonetheless, the department maintained accreditation and Title XIX certification at all of its facilities.

At the same time, through creative management of resources and close cooperative work with community providers, the department served approximately 165,000 persons in community programs.

In the area of Substance Abuse Services, the division continued working with the Center for Government at Auburn University Montgomery preparing to announce the completion of a major substance abuse needs assessment instrument. Survey results will significantly impact the development of new substance abuse treatment services beginning soon after the new year and carrying forward into the future.

I fondly anticipate next fiscal year and subsequent ones, as I work toward the mission you would have this department achieve: to serve individuals in the most integrated settings possible while maintaining their quality of life and dignity. We look forward to a year of goal-setting and achievement in an environment of rapid response to opportunities and challenges.

Sincerely,

Kathy F. Sawyer

Commissioner

# Central Office Administration\*

#### Kathy E. Sawyer

Commissioner 242-3107

#### **Kimberly Ingram**

Associate Commissioner for MI 242-3643

#### **Catharine Maddox**

Associate Commissioner for MR 242-3701

#### Dr. Ross V. Hart

Associate Commissioner for Admin. 353-3895

**O'Neill Pollingue,** Director Division of Substance Abuse Services 242-3961

# Mental Illness Division\*

#### James Reddoch, Jr.

*Director*Bryce Hospital
205-759-0799

#### **Beatrice McLean**

Acting Director
Thomasville Mental Health
Rehabilitation Center
334-636-5421

#### **Kay Greenwood**

Director
North Alabama Regional Hospital
256-353-9433

#### **David Gay**

Director
Taylor Hardin Secure Medical
Facility
205-556-7060

#### **John Terry Bartlett**

*Director*Searcy Hospital
334-829-9411

#### **Susan Chambers**

Director
Greil Memorial Psychiatric Hospital
334-262-0363

#### **Kathy Grissom**

Director

Mary Starke Harper Geriatric Center
205-759-0900

# Mental Retardation Division\*

#### **REGION I**

#### Dr. Jim Finch

Regional Director
Lurleen B. Wallace
Developmental Center
256-355-6810

# REGION II

#### **Larry Vail**

Regional Director
William D. Partlow
Developmental Center
205-553-4550

#### **REGION III**

#### Dr. Levi Harris

Regional Director
Albert P. Brewer
Developmental Center
334-633-0400

# REGION IV Dr. Ellen Gillespie

Regional Director

J. S. Tarwater Developmental Center
334-567-8471

# The State of Alabama Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation



Kathy E. Sawyer Commissioner\*

#### Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Alabama mental health service delivery system to ensure that the mental illness, mental retardation and substance abuse needs of the state's citizens are addressed in a manner that is maximally effective and efficient, while promoting the individual's quality of life, human worth and dignity.

### **CLIENTS SERVED IN FY 97-98**

<b>Mental Illness Facilities</b>	4,220
<b>Community Mental Health Centers</b>	61,757
<b>Substance Abuse Treatment</b>	19,975
<b>Substance Abuse Prevention</b>	75,000
<b>Mental Retardation Facilities</b>	751
<b>Mental Retardation Community Services</b>	7,824
	**169.527

<sup>\*</sup>Appointed by Governor Don Siegelman January 1999

<sup>\*\*</sup>Some duplication is included in this figure due to a number of clients receiving more than one service.

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# Annual Report 1997-98

### **Dedication**

by Joel C. Slack Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation



SHARON MASON

On January 27, 1999, the Alabama Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation lost a most dedicated and honorable employee, Ms. Sharon Mason, due to unexpected complications from emergency surgery.

For eight years, Sharon directed the Office of Quality Improvement in the Division of Mental Illness Services. In all aspects of her work, Sharon valued the input of stakeholders and championed programs and policies that supported the dignity, privacy, safety, and quality of life for persons with psychiatric disabilities and their families.

On May 25, 1999, Sharon's husband and two sisters accepted the Hope Award on Sharon's behalf, which is given each year to an individual whose work seeks cooperation and respect for the diverse perspectives of all stakeholders.

Because of her contributions to the Alabama Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation and the consumers and families we serve, we respectfully dedicate this annual report to Sharon.

Sharon valued the input of stakeholders and championed programs and policies that supported the dignity, privacy, safety, and quality of life for persons with psychiatric disabilities and their families.

# **COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE**

During FY 97-98, there were a number of specialized offices that reported directly to the commissioner. These included the Office of Legal Services, the Office of Continuing Education, the Office of Community Education, the Office of Advocacy Services, the Office of Public Information, the Office of Special Investigations and the Legislative Liaison.

Each of these offices contributed specialized services toward fulfilling the department's overall mission.

# Office of Legal Services

The Office of Legal Services represents the department in various lawsuits, plans legal strategies and protects the department's interests in its efforts to provide mental illness, mental retardation and substance abuse services. Staff in the office are available to advise departmental staff on situations with legal implications, answer questions and develop appropriate responses to questions posed by the public, the news media and others.

# Office of Continuing Education

The Office of Continuing Education supports department facilities and community providers by coordinating staff training and providing technical assistance. The office also provides employee orientation for new central office staff. This office often works closely with the Office of Community Education to develop and implement information and awareness programs

for Alabama school children. The office also coordinates certain federal education programs, compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Alabama State Employees Combined Charitable Campaign. FY 97-98 was a banner year for this campaign. Departmental employees donated a record \$65,740 or 161% of the department's goal.

# Office of Internal Advocacy Services

The Office of Internal Advocacy Services assists consumers, family members, providers and others in safeguarding the civil and legal rights of persons with mental illness, mental retardation and chemical addictions who are served in department facilities and community programs across the state. Last fiscal year, the office responded to more than 6,000 calls on the crisis hotline; responded to more than 2,700 information and referral requests; investigated more than 600 rights violation complaints; conducted 735 rights monitorings and certification reviews; and conducted 239 education and training programs.

### **Office of Planning**

In FY 97-98, the Office of Planning coordinated strategic planning, provided staff assistance to numerous planning committees and task forces, coordinated the activities of the department's Management Steering Committee and helped manage the Community Mental Health Services block grant. The office also assisted in the operations of the Alabama Family

Departmental employees donated a record \$65,740 or 161% of the department's goal for the ASECCC.

Trust, which enables families to provide supplemental assistance for their family members with mental or physical disabilities without endangering their federal or state entitlements.

# Office of Special Investigations

The Office of Special Investigations primarily investigates offenses of a criminal nature and initiates prosecution in cases where evidence indicates criminal acts by employees and others. The office is also responsible for advising and assisting facility police during investigations when requested and conducting training seminars when needed. The office conducts background investigations on persons seeking to provide services for consumers placed in the community, as well.

# **Legislative Liaison**

The Legislative Liaison provides legislative tracking and monitoring assistance. During the 1998 regular session of the Alabama legislature, two bills were passed that impact the department and the persons it serves:

1) a toll-free phone line was established

within the Department of Rehabilitative Services for reporting violations of the Americans with Disabilities Act; and 2) the Children's Trust Fund enabling legislation, appropriating certain proceeds from any tobacco-related litigation, settlement, assessment, or federal or state legislation.

# Office of Public Information and Community Relations

The Office of Public Information and Community Relations provides support to the Commissioner's Office in the form of speech-writing, responding to calls from legislators, the news media and the general public, preparing correspondence on special interest topics, and preparing position papers, etc. It also prepares news releases, departmental statements, and specialized reports to address specific problems and/or information needs. Special events in recognition of persons, programs or awareness campaigns are also planned and implemented. Last year, the practice of preparing and disseminating educational news releases to weekly newspapers on a weekly basis was begun. Routine publications such as the annual report, monthly newsletters and others were also prepared.

... two bills were passed that impact the department and the persons it serves: 1) a tollfree phone line was established within the Department of Rehabilitative Services for reporting violations of the Americans with Disabilities Act; and 2) the Children's Trust Fund enabling legislation, appropriating certain proceeds from any tobacco-related litigation, settlement, assessment, or federal or state legislation.

# Mental Health/Mental Retardation Central Office Directory

Commissioner	242-3107
Executive Assistant	242-3107
Associate Commissioner for Administration	353-3895
Associate Commissioner for Mental Illness	242-3643
Associate Commissioner for Mental Retardation	242-3701
Advocacy Services	242-3454
Advocacy Complaint	1-800-367-0955
Alabama Family Trust	242-3278
Budgets	242-3996
Certification (Non-Institutional)	242-3937
Community Relations	242-3417
Construction	242-2300
Consumer Relations	242-3456
Contracts Accounting	242-3633
Data Management	242-3305
Developmental Disabilities	242-3973
Finance	242-3992
General Accounting	242-3612
Land Management	242-3913
Legal	242-3038
Legislative Liaison	242-3187
Mail & Distribution	242-3931
MI Community Programs	242-3200
MR Community Programs	242-3701
OBRA Screening	242-3946
Payables, Accounts	242-3799
Payroll	242-3102
Personnel	242-3112
Policies and Procedures	242-2057
Printing	242-3934
Purchasing	242-3508
Planning	242-3185
Special Investigations	242-3274
Staff Development	242-3177
Statistics	242-3374
Substance Abuse	242-3961

# DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION

The division provides technical, financial and management support to the department's service divisions through a number of specialized bureaus.

### **Bureau of Certification**

The Bureau of Certification inspects and certifies community facilities, ensuring compliance with departmental standards and life safety codes.

### **Bureau of Finance**

The Bureau of Finance, which includes accounting, budgeting, purchasing and

payroll, coordinates and provides centralized accounting, financial and payroll services. During FY 97-98, the finance bureau noted that mental retardation/developmental disabilities waiver claims increased by eight percent; the department implemented a new resident/patient payroll system at seven facilities; personnel and payroll processed 324 employee retirements in July, August and September; work was begun on automating warehouse activities; \$5.5 million from 1995 Special Tax Bonds were expended on capital improvements; and 27 federal grants valued at nearly \$198 million were managed.

During FY 97-98, the finance bureau noted that mental retardation/developmental disabilities waiver claims increased by eight percent...

#### Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation General Operating Encumbrances and Expenditures Thru September 29, 1998

					% Obliga
		Obligations	% Obligat	Profess	Budge
	Annual	Excluding	Vs Budget	& Community	Including
	Budget	Contracts	Exclud Conts	Contracts	Contracts
MI Facilities:					
Bryce	40,530,085	39,820,114	98.24	652,846	99.85
Searcy	26,545,040	26,003,696	97.96	477,686	99.76
Hardin	7,246,130	7,116,689	98.21	100,208	99.59
Eufaula	213,606	182,991	85,66	0	85.66
Thomasville	7,167,899	7,082,273	98.80	59,441	99.63
Greil	5,261,262	5,141,659	97.72	102,783	99.68
NARH	7,195,927	7,025,101	97.62	149,998	99.7
Allen	4,365,036	4,233,635	96.98	121,915	99.78
Kidd	7,829,578	7,664,130	97.88	160,233	99.93
Harper	8,599,962	8,114,409	94.35	137,101	95.94
Box	4,407,282	4,396,473	99.75	3,062	99.82
Total MI Fac:	119,361,807	116,781,174	97.83	1,965,278	99.48
MR Facilities:					
Partlow	21,914,821	21,059,430	96.09	638,930	99.0
Ireland	420,490	408,778	97.21	11,707	99.99
Wallace	17,775,160	17,444,230	98.13	252,752	99.50
Brewer	14,625,425	14,159,272	96.81	413,795	99.64
Tarwater	8,182,518	7,696,893	94.06	241,963	97.0
Total MR Fac:	62,918,414	60,768,605	96.58	1,559,148	99.00
Comm. Programs*					
C/O MI Comm.	88,580,988	83,979,416	94.80	2,437,715	97.5
S/A Comm.	33,104,381	21,227,653	64.12	976,710	67.0
C/O MR Comm.	91,915,166	85,096,875	92.58	6,438,977	99.58
Tot Comm. Progs.	213,600,535	190,303,944	89.09	9,853,403	93.70
Central Admin:					
Tot Cent Admin	14,421,113	13,169,944	91.31	273,924	93.2
_					

<sup>\*100%</sup> of all community program contracts are encumbered when executed. Professional service contracts are encumbered quarterly in advance.

#### Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation General Operating Revenue Thru September 29, 1998

			Percent (%
	Budgeted	Actual	Actual T
	FY 97-98	FY 97-98	Budgete
STATE REVENUES			
Cigarette Taxes*	1,600,000	2,037,923*	127.3
Special Education Trust Fund	15,672,675	15,668,240	99.9
Special Mental Health Fund	110,702,338	108,684,872	98.1
State General Fund	68,801,951	68,801,951	100.0
Indigent Offenders Treatment	154,500	154,500	100.0
Judicial Fines	0	107	0.0
Sub Total	196,931,464	195,347,595	99.1
FEDERAL, LOCAL, MISC.			
REVENUES			
Other Income	9,510,780	8,967,742	94.2
Restricted Funds (donated)	3,941	2,673	67.8
Medicaid, T. XIX-Facilities	61,810,940	59,841,037	96.8
Medicaid, T. XIX-MR Community	57,755,221	60,590,819	104.9
Medicaid, T. XIX-MI Community	28,203,701	28,488,493	101.0
Medicaid, T. XIX-SA Community	813,750	598,764	73.5
Medicaid, PL 100-203-OBRA	860,468	445,923	51.8
Medicare	11,032,485	9,582,898	86.8
Federal Block Grants	31,493,106	21,300,801	67.6
Federal Grants	9,886,013	7,987,274	80.7
Sub Total	211,370,405	197,806,429	93.5
OTHER ITEMS			
Prior Year PO Cancellations	2,000,000	1,847,263	92.3
Sub Total	2,000,000	1,847,263	92.3
	410,301,869	395,001,288	96.2

### Bureau of Administrative Support Services

The Bureau of Administrative Support services includes offices of Construction, Preadmissions Screening, Policies and Procedures and Support Services.

# **Human Resources Management**

The Human Resources Management (the personnel section) monitors department personnel policies, develops and recommends departmental personnel policies and procedures and provides technical assistance to facility personnel offices.

		Staffing		
The chart below depicts depart	rtment staffing and the overall	turnover in workforce from Oct	ober 1, 1997, through Septe	ember 30, 1998:
	Beginning	End	Total	Percentage
	October 1, 1997	September 30, 1998	Decrease	Increase/
			in Staff	Decrease
Bryce	1,239	1,142	-97	-7.83%
Harper	174	178	4	2.30%
Searcy	702	663	-39	-5.56%
Secure Medical	175	177	2	1.14%
Eufaula	1	1	0	0.00%
Thomasville	166	158	-8	-4.82%
Greil	106	104	-2	-1.89%
North Alabama	146	143	-3	-2.05%
MI TOTALS	2,709	2,566	-143	-5.28%
Partlow	488	461	-27	-5.53%
Ireland	1	1	0	0.00%
Wallace	426	387	-39	-9.15%
Brewer	339	327	-12	-3.54%
Tarwater	175	178	3	1.71%
MR TOTALS	1,429	1,354	-75	-5.25%
Central Office	197	198	1	0.51%
DEPARTMENT TOTAL	4,335	4,118	-217	-5.01%

# **Bureau of Data Management**

The Bureau of Data Management provides information systems and statistical analysis support services for the department and all its operational facilities. Statistical analysis services include statistical reporting for DMH/MR and community program patient/client populations. Major systems supported for departmental use include the Financial Resources Management Systems (FRMS), the Comprehensive Mental Health and Mental Retardation Information Systems (CARES) and the Community

Services Subsystem (CSS). An assortment of smaller systems is also maintained to support patient/client payroll, warehouse inventory, property inventory and Medicaid payment processing.

The bureau also provides support for the department's data communication requirements, to include devices connected to the mainframe and those central office computers that are attached to the DMH/MR Local Area Network (LAN).

The primary focus next year will be the conversion and implementation of existing systems to achieve year 2000 operability and compliance.

# MENTAL ILLNESS DIVISION

**T**t is the mission of the Mental Illness Division of the Alabama Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation to address in an effective and efficient manner the needs of state citizens of all ages with serious mental illness and/or emotional disorders by operating seven mental illness facilities and contracting with 24 community mental health centers. During fiscal year 1997-98, approximately 65,000 persons with serious mental illness were served by the mental illness system. Of these 4,220 were served in mental illness facilities, and more than 60,000 in community mental health programs.

In order to ensure that services are provided in the most efficient and cost-effective manner, the Mental Illness Division established distinct goals to guide their efforts during the fiscal year. These goals were as follows:

- To provide modern services that meet professional standards of care for persons with serious mental illness and severe emotional disorders.
- Continue to work toward release from the court's oversight as a result of the 1970 Wyatt court order.
- reduce the length of stay at state facilities and develop appropriate alternative services and supports within community environments.

# Office of Consumer Relations

The highlight of each year for the Office of Consumer Relations is the Annual Consumer Conference. The theme for this year's conference was *Recovery with an Attitude*. The conference grew to more than 600 with

the vast majority being consumers. The office continues to provide a toll free telephone line for consumers and family members. Callers can access information on mental illness, support groups and mental health services.

The office continues to work with 30 local support groups across the state and to publish its quarterly newsletter, LISTEN, which has a circulation of 5,000.

# Office of Child and Adolescent Services

In FY 98, more than 15,000 children and adolescents received mental health services from community providers under contract with the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation.

A proposal was submitted for a federal grant to develop a statewide family network for families with children and adolescents with a serious emotional disturbance. The proposal received approval in October 1998 for a period of three years. New mental health services were initiated in Birmingham under the Jefferson County Community Partnership federal grant.

The second phase of the ALLKids health insurance program became a reality. Limited outpatient and inpatient mental health services are available under the insurance program. Community mental health centers are included as approved service providers.

# MI Division Continuing Quality Improvement Program - Facilities Component

The division QI Program for facilities continued ongoing monitoring of nine

During fiscal year 1997-98, approximately 65,000 persons with serious mental illness were served by the mental illness system.

The CMHC indicators were initially administered in 1997 and more than 3,098 responses were received. The results from these surveys were positive, indicating that systemwide, consumers and family members were satisfied with the CMHC services provided.

key areas during the last year. The areas monitored include seclusion and restraint; patient satisfaction; informed consent for psychiatric medicine; recidivism; length of stay; deaths; serious suicide attempts; depo-provera; and suspected abuse/neglect.

The QI Program coordinated four JCAHO (Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations) mock surveys in the facilities and five onsite reviews in the intermediate care facilities (ICFs) over the past year. All seven inpatient facilities and the three ICFs have maintained JCAHO accreditation and four facilities achieved accreditation with commendation during the most recent JCAHO survey.

# MI Division Continuing Quality Improvement Program - Community Component

The QI Program is nearing completion of the second full cycle of systemwide Community Mental Health Center (CMHC) QI activities. The CMHC indicators were initially administered in 1997 and more than 3,098 responses were received. The results from these surveys were positive, indicating that systemwide, consumers and family members were satisfied with the CMHC services provided.

### **Mental Illness Facilities**

The past year was good for Alabama's mental illness facilities. All state facilities maintained national healthcare accreditation and certification through the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), Medicare and Medicaid. North Alabama Regional

Hospital, Greil Hospital and Thomasville Mental Health Rehabilitation Center (with the exception of three standards) were released from the court's oversight of the 1970 Wyatt court order in FY 1997-98. In December 1998, the Kidd, Allen and Box intermediate care nursing home facilities and the Mary Starke Harper Geriatric Psychiatry Center were released from court oversight. The length of stay at state facilities was reduced and appropriate alternative services were provided.

# **Bryce Hospital**

The hospital began the year with an official capacity of 484 beds. Adjustments during the year decreased the number to 466 beds, allocated as follows: Admissions Unit - 96; Therapeutic Rehabilitation Unit - 166; Behavioral Rehabilitation Unit - 152; Adolescent Unit - 40; Infirmary - 12. This reduction in overall capacity caused no serious disruption, and the hospital operated well within the lower capacity since January 1998.

### Thomasville Mental Health Rehabilitation Center

During FY 1997-98, the Thomasville Mental Health Rehabilitation Center served 226 clients with 104 admissions and 104 discharges. The official bed capacity for the center is 122 beds. Inhouse median length of stay was reduced during the year from 325 days to 254 days. Average occupancy rate was 98% with a 100% utilization rate. Again this year, numerous visitors from across the United States and Nova Scotia, Canada, toured TMHRC to learn more about how the facility implements psychiatric rehabilitation.

# **Searcy Hospital**

Searcy Hospital has a capacity of 325 psychiatric beds, and the Box Nursing Facility operates 142 long term care beds. During FY 1997-98, Searcy admitted 634 patients (including 24 transfers from other mental illness facilities) and discharged 629 patients (including 60 transfers to other mental illness facilities). This number of admissions was a significant increase over the 428 admissions for FY 1996-97. This increase can be attributed to an agreement between Searcy Hospital and the Mobile Mental Health Center for Searcy to serve as the site for court commitment evaluations and voluntary crisis patients.

# **Taylor Hardin Secure Medical Facility**

The total number of patients served for fiscal year 1997-98 was 248 patients. There were 144 admissions and 141 discharges. Forensic outpatient evaluations completed in fiscal year 1997-98 was a total of 680 which includes 526 evaluations conducted by the regional program and 154 conducted by the SMF staff.

# North Alabama Regional Hospital

During fiscal year 1997-98, North Alabama Regional Hospital served 543 patients. This exceeded the number served in previous years. The median length of stay decreased from 55 days to 40 days. The facility continued its voluntary admission program, admitting 16 patients.

### Mary Starke Harper Geriatric Psychiatry Center

Acute and short-term psychiatric treatment was provided to 394 individuals age 65 and over from throughout the state of Alabama. This included admitting/readmitting 262 patients and discharging 242 patients with 66% returning to their home community to live and the remaining 34% being released to one of the DMH/MR intermediate care facilities. Length of stay was approximately 90 days.

# Greil Memorial Psychiatric Hospital

Through a collaborative effort with the community mental health centers in its service region, many favorable outcomes for patients/consumers were achieved at Greil Memorial Psychiatric Hospital during FY 1997-98. The partnership between the hospital and community providers, previously established in May 1997 through a pilot project, was designed to improve services for the seriously mentally ill in the region. It has enabled Greil to improve the continuum of care; shorten length of stay; expand its service region to six additional counties; improve access to services; and significantly increase the numbers served, as compared to previous years. These outcomes combined with release from the Wyatt court order made this a very exciting and rewarding year.

# **Bureau of Mental Illness Community Programs**

The community care system takes pride in pointing to "numbers". The number

It has enabled Greil to improve the continuum of care; shorten length of stay; expand its service region to six additional counties: improve access to services; and significantly increase the numbers served. as compared to previous years.

Mental illness isn't fair; no one chooses it; and it isn't an escape, but often a prison.

More group homes were opened and apartments leased to expand the continuum of housing opportunities. of persons with severe and persistent mental illnesses who no longer reside in state hospitals, the number who receive competent care in the community, the number who have been able to come home. Administrators sometimes "live and die by numbers," forgetting the faces and flesh, the struggles and personal triumphs behind the numbers. The struggles are faced by courageous men, women and children who face their illnesses and strive to prevail. Mental illness isn't fair; no one chooses it; and it isn't an escape, but often a prison.

# **Community Mental Health Centers**

Services to the mentally ill and the seriously emotionally disturbed are the primary focus for mental illness services. In FY 1997-98, community mental health centers strove to meet the ever-changing needs of the consumers. More group homes were opened and apartments leased to expand the continuum of housing opportunities. The service continuum grew to include case management, in-home services, education programs and specialized services for special populations.

# SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES DIVISION

The department, recognizing the need for a comprehensive and coordinated framework to ensure that substance abuse programs are well-planned, coordinated and effective, established the Division of Substance Abuse Services in the fall of 1989.

Statutory regulation of programs, along with resource allocation and management, continue to be the major ongoing tasks of the division. The division is organized into the following sections: Administration; Contracts & Grants; Research, Evaluation and Information; Program Development; Prevention; and Professional Development.

### **Administration**

The function of the Office of Administration is to oversee the activities of the Division of Substance Abuse Services. Specific tasks include: personnel management; liaison with the Council of Community Mental Health Center Directors; block grant application, administration and regulation compliance; short and longrange planning; securing and allocating funds; establishing purchase of service rates; overseeing site certification issues; assisting providers with securing additional funding; responding to treatment, prevention, needs assessment, funding and contract issues; attending local, regional, statewide and national meetings, workshops and conferences; and participating as appropriate in the overall management of the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation.

The division continued to maintain compliance with four federal block grant mandates during FY 97/98, including provision of special women's programs, anti-tobacco activities (Synar amendment to the federal block grant), HIV Intervention Services and Revolving Loan Fund.

Additionally, regulatory authority over Alabama's 16 methadone clinics was maintained, and the Alabama Board of Pharmacy was enlisted to aid in this effort.

#### **Contracts and Grants**

The Office of Contracts and Grants links state and federal resources directly to services provided, and furnishes the information to support block grant reporting requirements.

Collecting client service data, processing vouchers, fiscal accounting and reporting financial data continue to be primary tasks of the Office of Contracts and Grants. In addition, the office prepares contracts and the annual budget for the Substance Abuse Services Division, as well as assisting providers with subcontracts, grant applications and financial issues.

# Research, Evaluation and Information

The Office of Research, Evaluation and Information is responsible for the following areas: automated client admission system; data collection and analysis; Treatment Access Project (T.A.P.); needs assessment research studies; literature search; and public awareness and information.

...regulatory authority over Alabama's 16 methadone clinics was maintained... ...Program
Development
conducts site
reviews of more
than 120
treatment
services at 75
different
locations...

In addition to these major tasks, office staff continue to personally contact service providers to address issues pertaining to admission system software, voucher system software, T.A.P. and ECHO (the database software designed to be utilized statewide).

### **Program Development**

The Office of Program Development conducts site reviews of more than 120 treatment services at 75 different locations as mandated by state law in order to ensure quality of services to consumers. In addition, the office works to improve the overall quality of these programs by conducting site certification visits and providing written reports of compliance with state substance abuse standards.

The office also provides technical assistance and consultation in all areas of substance abuse treatment. The office is responsible for development of standards, monitoring Medicaid provider eligibility status for program staff members, maintaining a central registry of all methadone admissions/discharges, processing new service applications and investigating complaints involving programs and consumers.

# **Prevention**

All prevention activities must address the prevention of the abuse of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

Prevention/education must be directed toward individuals not identified to be in need of treatment services. The Substance Abuse Services Division has established and funded a continuum of prevention services that research has indicated is the most effective, from the most intensive to the least intensive, as follows: Alternative programs for highrisk youth, family strengthening programs, high-risk adult programs, high-risk youth peer programs, high-risk youth identification programs and workshops.

# Professional Development

Interagency efforts to increase awareness of substance abuse/addiction issues as a causal factor in human service needs have continued during FY 97/98. The trainer development system currently includes staff from seven other state agencies with which training and cross-training resources can be shared.

The Office of Professional Development coordinated a total of 16 training events throughout FY 97/98 involving 58.2 days of actual training for 892 participants. Other DMH/MR and external agency committee work was accomplished as a result and in relation to projects previously mentioned.

# MENTAL RETARDATION DIVISION

rvices to people with mental retardation will most likely be needed from birth to death since mental retardation is a life-long disability affecting many areas of an individual's life. A broad range of services are needed to assist individuals with mental retardation and their families at various times in their lives. Thus, the division provides a comprehensive service system across the state. The delivery of services is managed through four geographic regions. The regional staff works closely with community providers to coordinate the flow of services between and among the community and the developmental centers. During FY 97-98, more than 7,300 individuals with mental retardation were served through the efforts of the division. Of the \$153 million total expenditures during this fiscal year, \$43 million was state money and \$110 million was earned through federal reimbursement.

# Office of Children's Services

The MR Office of Children's Services is actively involved in the health and well-being of children, adolescents and their families. Over the past year, the Children's Services Office worked with the Interagency Coordinating Council for Early Intervention; the folic acid information campaign, endorsed by the Governor's Advisory Panel for the Prevention of Disability; the Children's Health Insurance Program/ALLKids; the Alabama Head Injury Task Force; and the Multiple-needs Child State Case Review Committee.

Alabama's early intervention system with the Department of Rehabilitation

Services as lead agency, includes the Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation and seven other state agencies. The mission of this program is to ensure that infants and toddlers, birth to three years of age, with developmental delays or with diagnoses that have a high probability of developmental delays, have access to a comprehensive and timely system of quality services. The Division of Mental Retardation contracted with 33 community agencies to provide early intervention services to a quarterly average of 1,310 infants, toddlers and their families.

The Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation was named as the lead agency in "A State Capacity **Project Assessing and Preventing** Secondary Conditions Associated with Disability and Promoting the Health of Persons with Disabilities," a cooperative agreement funded through a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This project will identify persons who have at least one of the following conditions that are suggestive of disability in the learning domain: mental retardation, specific learning disability, autism, spina bifida, cerebral palsy or traumatic brain injury. During FY 97-98, an Office of Prevention satellite office was established in Birmingham.

# **Developmental Centers**

Developmental Centers reduced their census during FY 97-98 from 718 people on October 1, 1997 to 696 people on September 30, 1998. Residential services are available to those people who continue to need institutional care in small, modern,

The Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation was named as the lead agency in "A State Capacity Project Assessing and **Preventing** Secondary **Conditions** Associated with Disability and Promoting the Health of Persons with Disabilities," a cooperative agreement funded through a grant from the Centers for **Disease Control** and Prevention.

CQI is a performance management technique that promotes empowerment and positive outcomes.

regional centers. These centers include the William D. Partlow Developmental Center in Tuscaloosa, Lurleen B. Wallace Developmental Center in Decatur, Albert P. Brewer Developmental Center in Mobile, and J. S. Tarwater Developmental Center in Wetumpka. Each of these facilities provides comprehensive services including specialized medical, behavioral and programmatic services that are developed based on individual need. These centers are certified as intermediate care facilities (ICF's) by complying with applicable Medicaid standards and requirements.

# Office of Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI)

The Office of Continuous Quality
Improvement (CQI) monitors and
coordinates the statewide Mental
Retardation Continuous Quality
Improvement System for
developmental centers and community
service providers. CQI is a performance
management technique that promotes
empowerment and positive outcomes.
There are constant monitoring
opportunities for improvement in the
quality of services through the use of
data and teamwork.

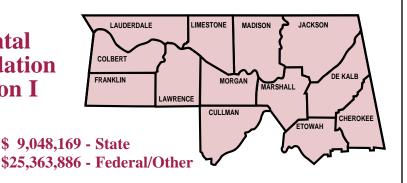
There were significant, major undertakings this year as part of the CQI system. MRCQI refined the certification process and procedures for community providers assuming responsibility for community program certification at the central and regional levels. The Incident Prevention and Management System was expanded to include community programs. This system has recently been requested by several other states as a model for implementation in their service systems.

As a function required by federal statutes for participation in the Medicaid program, the MRQI Office conducted Medicaid utilization reviews every six months at each developmental center/ICF/MR and at least three 15-bed-or-less ICF's/MR in the community.

The Division of Mental Retardation continues to develop and expand person-centered services for individuals in appropriate community programs. State funds, Medicaid Home and Community-Based Waiver federal funds, Part C federal funds from the U.S. Department of Education, and other funding sources provided major resources in the delivery of community mental retardation services during FY98. As people moved from Alabama's developmental centers, there was a concurrent increase in services provided in community programs.

Services in the community are contracted through a variety of local providers. The categories of services provided and purchased through the Division of Mental Retardation are: day services; residential services; support services; and case management.



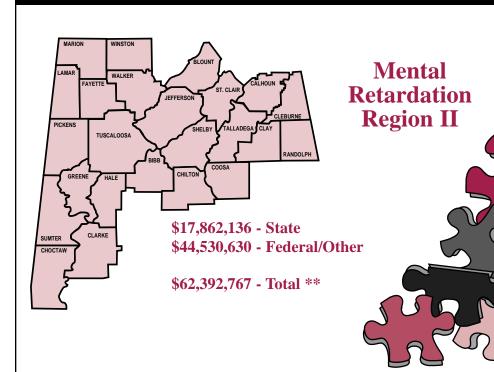


\$34,412,055 - Total \*\*

- Wallace Developmental Center
- Cullman County Center for DD
- DeKalb County ARC
- DeKalb County Mental Retardation Board
- Enrestoration, Inc.
- · Greater Etowah MR 310 Board
- Jackson County ARC
- Madison County Mental Retardation Board
- Marshall County ARC
- Marshall Jackson MRA, Inc.
- North Central Alabama MRA
- Northeast Alabama MR/DD Authority
- · Regional 310 Authority
- · Shoals Cope for MR
- VOA North Alabama
- Clark Smeltzer Education Center
- CDD/NCA

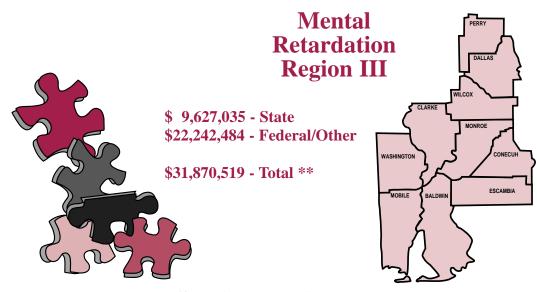
- Lois Irvin
- Pearline McReynolds
- Village Home Care, Inc.
- Betty Coplin
- Haymon Homes
- Robert Jones, Inc.
- · Episcopal Kyle Board
- Hope, Inc.
- JLH Enterprises
- Nancy Pruitt
- North Ala. Professional Residential Sys. Inc.
- T & N, Inc.
- Tri-County Group Home, Inc.
- · ARC of the Shoals
- Franklin County ARC
- Pat Hanners

COUNTIES IN REGION I	PEOPLE SERVED	STAFF EMPLOYED
Cherokee	27	10
Colbert	60	26
Cullman	78	35
DeKalb	89	58
Etowah	94	70
Franklin	25	16
Jackson	83	99
Lauderdale	5	10
Lawrence	32	15
Limestone	52	35
Madison	144	201
Marshall	44	73
Morgan	330	488
REGION I TOTALS	1063	1136



COUNTIES IN REGION II	PEOPLE SERVED	STAFF EMPLOYED
Bibb	25	3
Blount	92	32
Calhoun	214	88
Chilton	40	
Choctaw	35	7
Clay	15	
Cleburne	26	12
Coosa	14	
Fayette	43	43
Green	35	1
Hale	59	3
Jefferson	1096	756
Lamar	36	35
Marengo	45	50
Marion	65	74
Pickens	50	14
Randolph	30	7
Shelby	143	43
St. Clair	102	16
Sumter	41	2
Talladega	105	51
Tuscaloosa	570	375
Walker	143	160
Winston	44	44
REGION II TOTALS	3068	1816

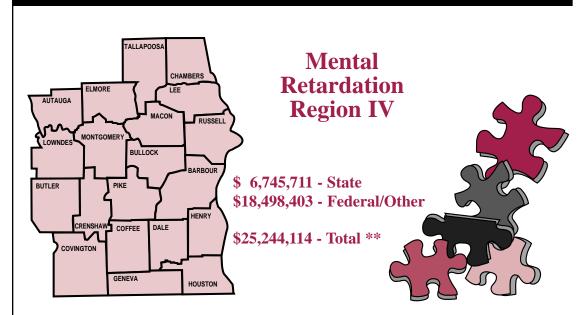
- Partlow Developmental Center
- Blount County MR DD Board
- Calhoun-Cleburne MH Board
- Chilton-Shelby County MH Board
- Cheaha Mental Health Center
- East Central Alabama UCP
- Jefferson County MR/DD Board
- Jefferson/Blount/St.Clair Co. MR Board
- PHP of Alabama
- Randolph County ARC
- Bibb/Pickens/Tuscaloosa MR Board
- Tri-County MR Board
- Fayette/Lamar ARC
- West Alabama MH Board
- VOA South Alabama
- Tuscaloosa Mental Retardation Authority
- Northwest Alabama MH Center
- Community Services Programs of West Alabama
- St. Clair County MR DD Board
- Glenwood MH Services
- Jefferson County ARC
- Res-Care, Inc.
- St. Andrews Foundation
- UCP of Greater Birmingham
- St. Clair County ARC
- Winston/Marion ARC
- The Arc of Walker County
- Resources for Independence
- Tri-County Group Home, Inc.
- The Arc of Tuscaloosa
- UCP of West Alabama



- Brewer Developmental Center
- · Baldwin County MR Board
- Cahaba Center for MH/MR
- Clarke County MR/DD Board
- Epilepsy Chapter of Mobile/Gulf
- Exceptional Children
- L'Arche Mobile
- Mobile ARC
- The Mustard Seed
- Parker Adult Foster Homes
- Southwest Alabama MH/MR Board
- UCP of Mobile
- VOA of South Alabama
- Baldwin County ARC

- Dawn House, Inc.
- Clark County ARC
- Linda Reed
- Mary Woods Love
- Prentiss Graham
- Willie Nobles
- Rondi Wilkins
- UCP of Mobile & the Gulf Coast, Inc.
- Agape House
- Dianna Ortega
- Donna Velasquez
- Maxine Hill
- Shirley Wyatt
- The Learning Tree

COUNTIES IN REGION III	PEOPLE SERVED	STAFF EMPLOYED
Baldwin	225	80
Clarke	75	25
Conecuh	39	6
Dallas	142	32
Escambia	75	30
Mobile	950	885
Monroe	50	7
Perry	26	4
Washington	39	14
Wilcox	22	4
REGION III TOTALS	1643	1087



COUNTIES IN REGION II	PEOPLE SERVED	STAFF EMPLOYED
Autauga	66	49
Barbour	76	10
Bullock	54	9
Butler	22	22
Chambers	47	37
Coffee	25	26
Covington	57	30
Crenshaw	74	4
Dale	99	52
Elmore	167	258
Geneva	84	22
Henry	44	9
Houston	188	69
Lee	127	94
Lowndes	7	3
Macon	40	14
Montgomery	268	220
Pike	75	8
Russell	34	11
Tallapoosa	31	11
REGION II TOTALS	3068	1816

- Tarwater Developmental Center
- Autauga/Western Elmore ARC
- Autauga/Elmore 310 Board
- Chattahoochee Valley Area ARC
- · Dale County MR Board
- Dothan/Houston County MR Board
- East Alabama MH/MR Board
- East Central Alabama MH/MR Board
- Eastern Elmore County ARC
- H.E.L.P.
- Macon County Council on R & R
- Montgomery ARC
- PHP of Alabama
- South Central Alabama MH Board
- Wiregrass MH Board
- Dothan/Houston ARC
- Maxwell Alternative Residential Services
- Carrie Gardner
- Janey Ridgeway

### Alabama Developmental Disabilities Planning Council

The Alabama Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC) provides federal funds to help develop projects across Alabama that enable individuals with developmental disabilities and their family members to design services and supports, as well as to have access to assistance and opportunities that promote their independence and productivity. The objective for funding these projects is to encourage and support the design of programs that enable these individuals and families to be fully integrated and included within their home communities.

The Department of Mental Health serves the Alabama Developmental Disabilities Planning Council as the designated state agency for fiscal and personnel matters. The council consisted of 28 members in FY 1997-1998. Each member has been appointed by the Governor and represents principal state agencies, institutions of higher education, the university affiliated program (UAP), the protection and advocacy program (P&A), local agencies, nongovernmental agencies, private, and non-profit groups, as well as consumers or family members of consumers. Council members and staff meet quarterly to evaluate activities and trends in the state and develop systemchange strategies to promote the capacity of communities and organizations to support individuals with disabilities and their families.

The council focused on four priority areas during the 1997-1998 fiscal year: community living, employment, prevention, and advocacy/system change.

### Information and Referral

Alabama Alliance for the Mentally Ill Hillcrest Professional Office Building 6900 6th Avenue, South Suite B Birmingham, Alabama 35212

Phone: 1-800-626-4199

Mental Health Consumers of Alabama 400 South Union Street P.O. Box 70459 Montgomery, Alabama 36107

Phone: 1-800-264-6422

Numbers for local Mental Health Association Chapters may be obtained through local telephone directories.

The Arc of Alabama 444 South Decatur Street Montgomery, Alabama 36104

Phone: (334) 262-7688

People First of Alabama 2030 Third Avenue Jasper, Alabama 35501 Phone: (205) 384-4953

The cover art is an acrylic painting titled "Pink Still Life," by Carole Eskridge of Huntsville. Ms. Eskridge is founder of The Visionary Guild of Alabama, a group dedicated to expanding the public's knowledge of mental illness and other disabilities through artistic expression. For further information about The Visionary Guild, call the DMH/MR Office of Public Information at 334-242-3417.